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conditions at Yambo are not satisfactory, many cholera cases and deaths occurring daily. The pilgrim vessels carry double the number allowed by measurement. Such overcrowding is necessarily deleterious to the sanitary conditions at the port of disembarkation. During the first week in February many hundreds of Hindu pilgrims arrived to remain in the Hedjaz until the next pilgrimage. Thus the arrival of new pilgrims has begun before the repatriation of the pilgrimage of this year is complete. The general sanitary condition of Djeddah has commenced to improve. Cholera diminishes as the pilgrims leave, though a daily average of 15 cases and deaths was reported January 31. Plague and smallpox were also reported present. Cholera was reported still present at Mecca February 6, with a total of about 30 fatal cases. According to decision of the Ottoman Sanitary Council, the baggage of all pilgrims destined for Ottoman ports is disinfected on board ship.

AUSTRALIA.

Plague at Brisbane, Cairns, and Sydney—Examination of rodents for plague infection.

The following information is taken from plague bulletins issued by the departments of health of Queensland and New South Wales, and forwarded by Consul-General Bray at Melbourne:

QUEENSLAND.

Brisbane.—Week ended January 11. Rodents destroyed, 431; examined, 343; found infected, 0. Week ended January 18. Rodents destroyed, 647; examined, 529; found infected, 0. Week ended January 25. Three cases, 2 deaths. Rodents destroyed, 390; examined, 314; found infected, 0. Week ended February 1. Rodents destroyed, 448; examined, 383; found infected, 0. Last infected rat found January 22.

Cairns.—One case found January 23. The patient was employed on a sugar plantation at Mulgrave, 21 miles from Cairns. Plague-infected rats were found on the plantation. Of 115 rats examined, 27 were found plague infected.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Sydney.—Week ended January 11.—Rodents destroyed, 2,286; examined, 834; found infected, 12. Week ended January 18. One case. No cause of infection found. Rodents destroyed, 2,206; examined, 848; found infected, 7. Week ended January 25. Rodents destroyed, 2,259; examined, 859; found infected, 9. Date of last infected rodent found, January 25. From fresh premises January 17.

BRAZIL.

Reports from Rio de Janeiro—Inspection of vessels—Mortality—Plague and smallpox.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Stewart reports, February 12 and 27: Week ended February 9. Vessels inspected and bills of health issued: February 5, British steamship *Byron*, for New York, with a

cargo of coffee, 25 cabin and 13 steerage passengers, with no change in the crew personnel; February 6, British steamship *Titian*, for New Orleans, with a cargo of coffee, no passengers, and no change in the crew personnel.

No other vessels left this port during the week bound for United States ports.

Mortality—Plague and smallpox.—Week ended February 9. Total deaths, 239. There were no deaths from yellow fever during the week, nor were any new cases reported during the period. There were no deaths from bubonic plague during the week, and there was but one new reported case. There were 20 deaths caused by variola, with 30 new reported cases. At the close of the week there were in the Hospital São Sebastião no cases of yellow fever, 40 cases of variola, and 10 cases of bubonic plague under treatment, and 30 cases of suspicious illness under observation.

(For report for week ended February 16, see Public Health Reports, March 20, 1908, page 354.)

Week ended February 23. Vessels issued bills of health February 17: Portuguese bark *Mariana Madre*, for Pensacola, Fla., in stone ballast, no cargo, and with no change in the personnel; German steamship *Corrientes*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee, 2 cabin and 2 steerage passengers, and with no change in the crew personnel. February 18, the British steamship *Swedish Prince*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee and with no passengers and with no change in the crew personnel, and British steamship *Voltaire*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee, 7 cabin and 11 steerage passengers, and with no change in the personnel of the crew.

No other vessels requiring inspection left this port during the week.

Mortality—Plague and smallpox.—Week ended February 23, 1908. Total deaths, 261. No cases nor deaths due to yellow fever. Variola caused 47 new reported cases and 4 deaths, and bubonic plague caused no deaths, although 1 new case was reported. At the close of the week there were in the Hospital São Sebastião 50 cases of variola, 2 cases of plague, and 28 cases of suspicious illness under observation.

CUBA.

Report from Cienfuegos—Inspection of vessels.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Marsillan reports, March 16:

Week ended March 14.

Vessels inspected and bills of health issued.....	3
Members of crews inspected.....	100
Cabin passengers inspected.....	5

A clean bill of health was issued to each of these vessels.

No quarantinable disease was reported during the week.